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Tandon School of ENGINEERING

# Wearable Computing for Mental Well-Being

Rose T. Faghieh

Department of Biomedical Engineering

Supported by NSF 1755780 & NSF 1942585/2226123



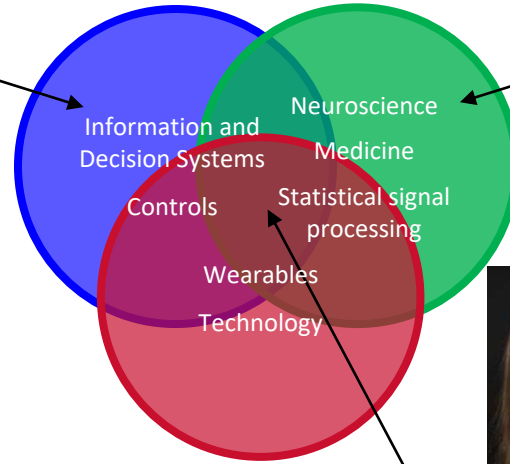
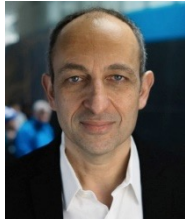
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# Computational Medicine for Closed Loop Therapy

Munther Dahleh, PhD  
(MIT)



Emery Brown, MD, PhD  
(MIT, Harvard)



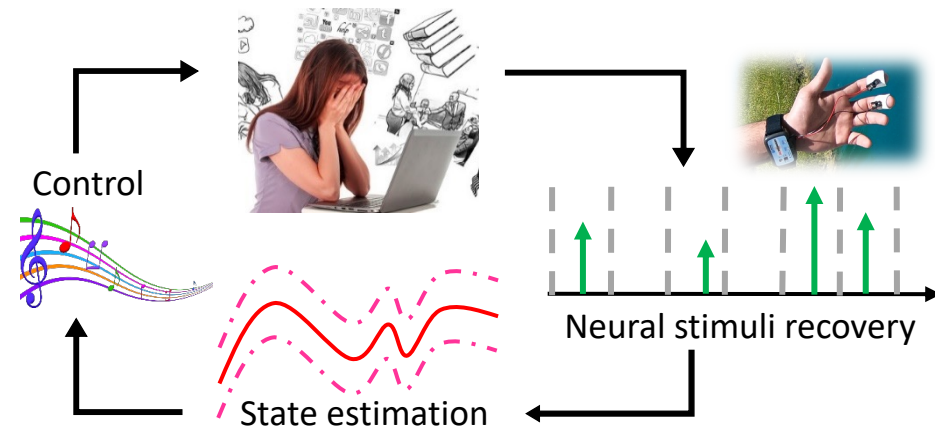
**Rose Faghih, PhD (MIT '14)**

Postdoc MIT BCS, Jun 2014-Dec 2016  
Assistant Prof. UH ECE, Jan 2017-Jan 2022  
Associate Prof. NYU BME, Since Jan 2022

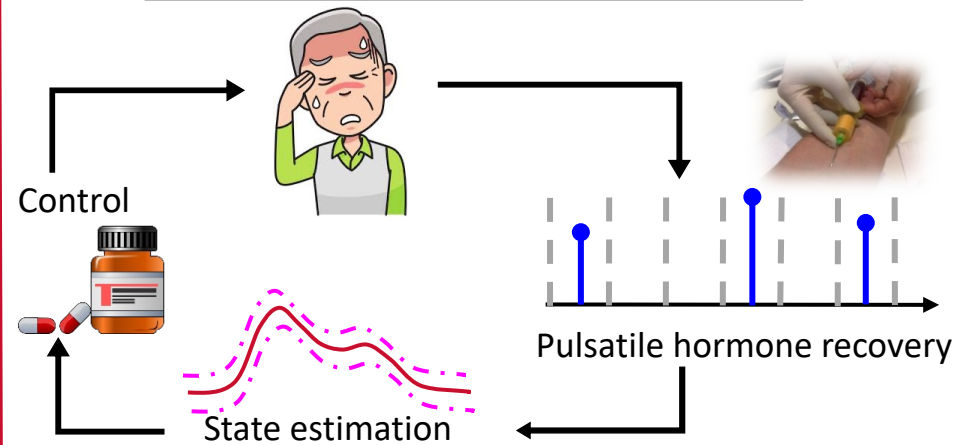


- **Infer** neural **stimuli** underlying **pulsatile** (rapidly fluctuating) physiological signals (e.g. skin conductance, blood cortisol levels)
- **Estimate** an unobserved cognitive **state** based on underlying pulsatile stimuli
- Design **control** strategy to maintain neural state within a desired range

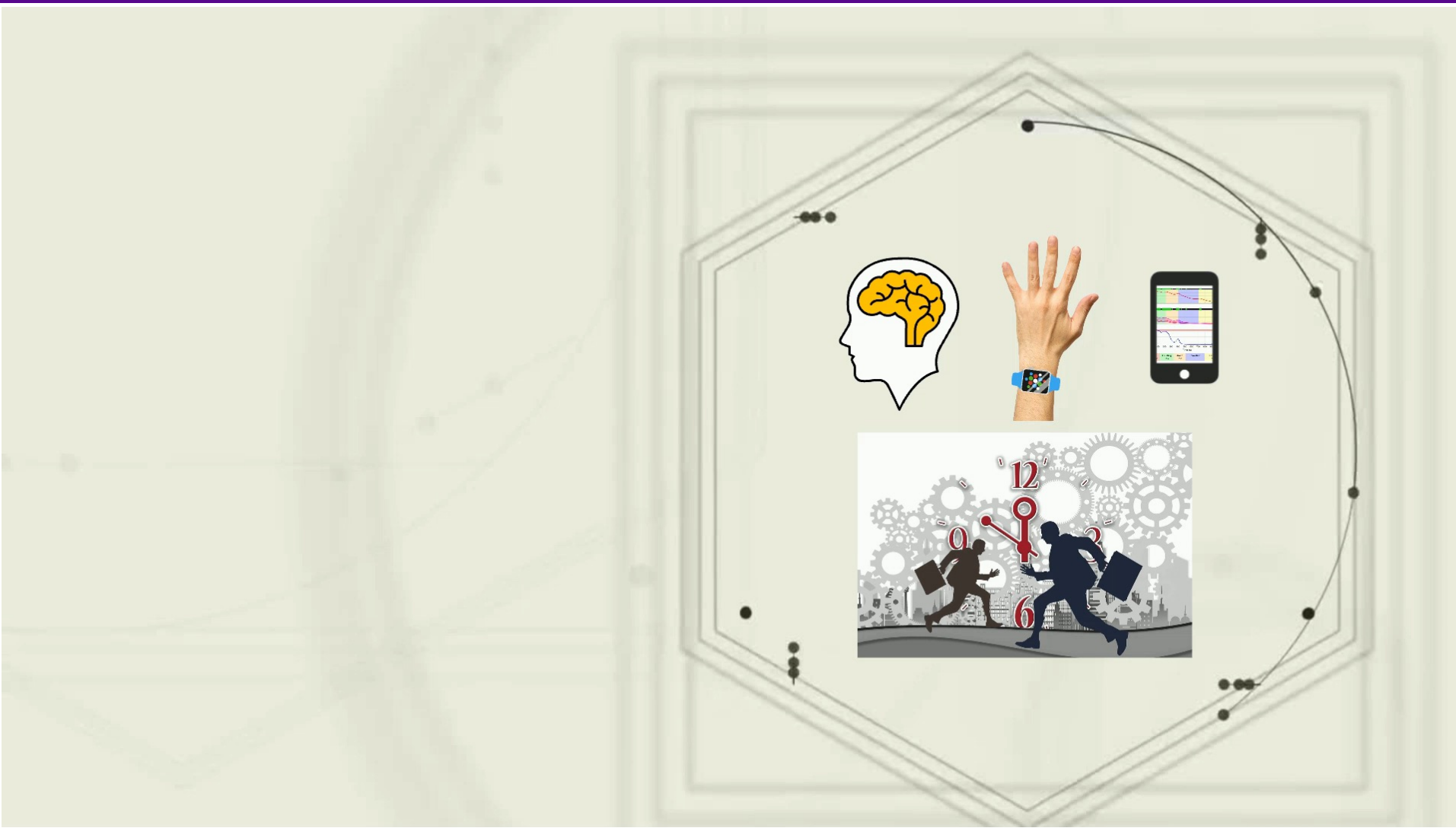
## Stress Estimation from Skin Conductance



## Energy Estimation from Blood Cortisol



# Wearable-Machine Interface Architectures



[Wearable-Machine Interface Architectures Video](#)



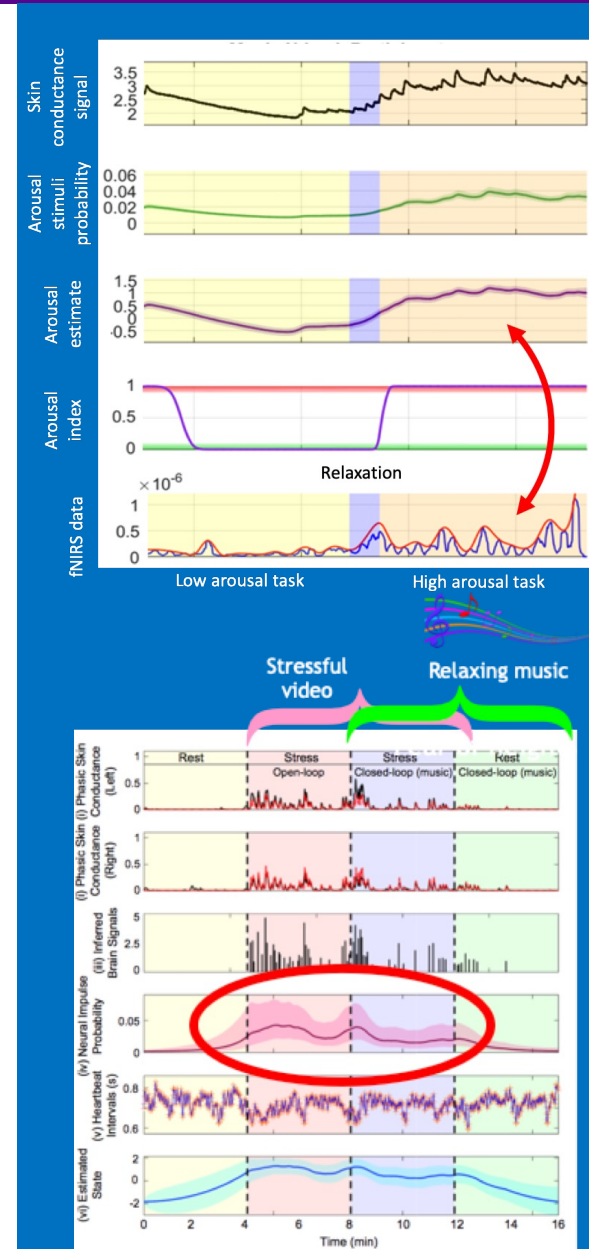
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# Smartwatch-Brain Interface Architectures for Neurocognitive Stress

- What if Our Smartwatches Could Track Our Brain States?
  - **Wearable device** to infer brain activity from **peripheral** physiological signals
    - **Infer neural stimuli** underlying physiological signals
    - **Estimate** an unobserved brain state from underlying pulsatile stimuli
    - **Apply control** mechanism to maintain neural state within a desired range
  - Current gold standard – direct brain activity monitoring (e.g., EEG)
- Selected to **MIT Technology Review's 2020 Innovators Under 35** list (**FuturoProssimo** has predicted this technology has a high potential for a **Nobel prize**) and **2020 NSF CAREER** Award on **MINDWATCH**
- Ability to recover brain activity
  - Arousal estimates from skin conductance match Functional near-infrared spectroscopy (**fNIRS**) **blood flow (brain imaging)** over prefrontal cortex
- Empirical demonstration of the viability of regulating arousal via music (**subject-selected relaxing music**) based on observations from skin conductance and cardiac activity



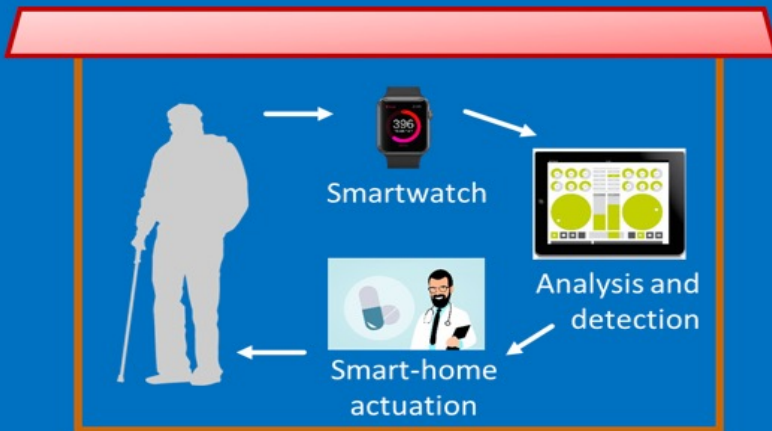
# Applications



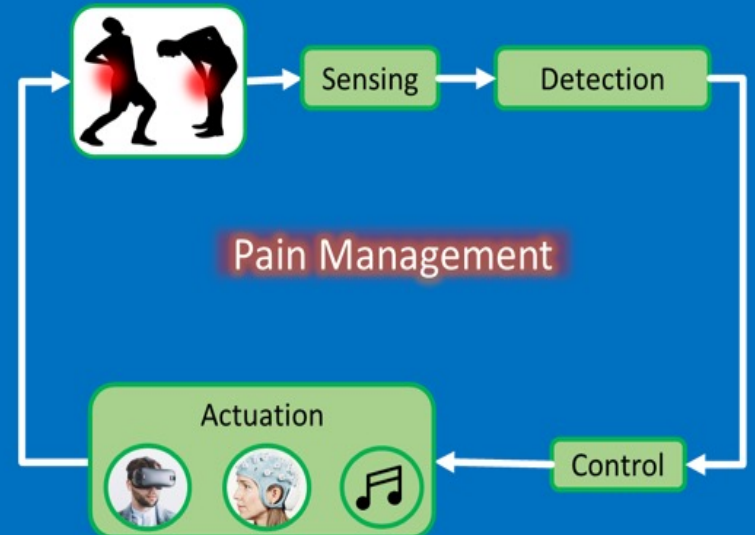
Optimize Productivity in Smart Workplaces



Maximize Cognitive Engagement and Learning in Online and In-class Environments



Aging in Place



Pain Management

# MINDWATCH Demonstration

[MINDWATCH Demonstration](#)



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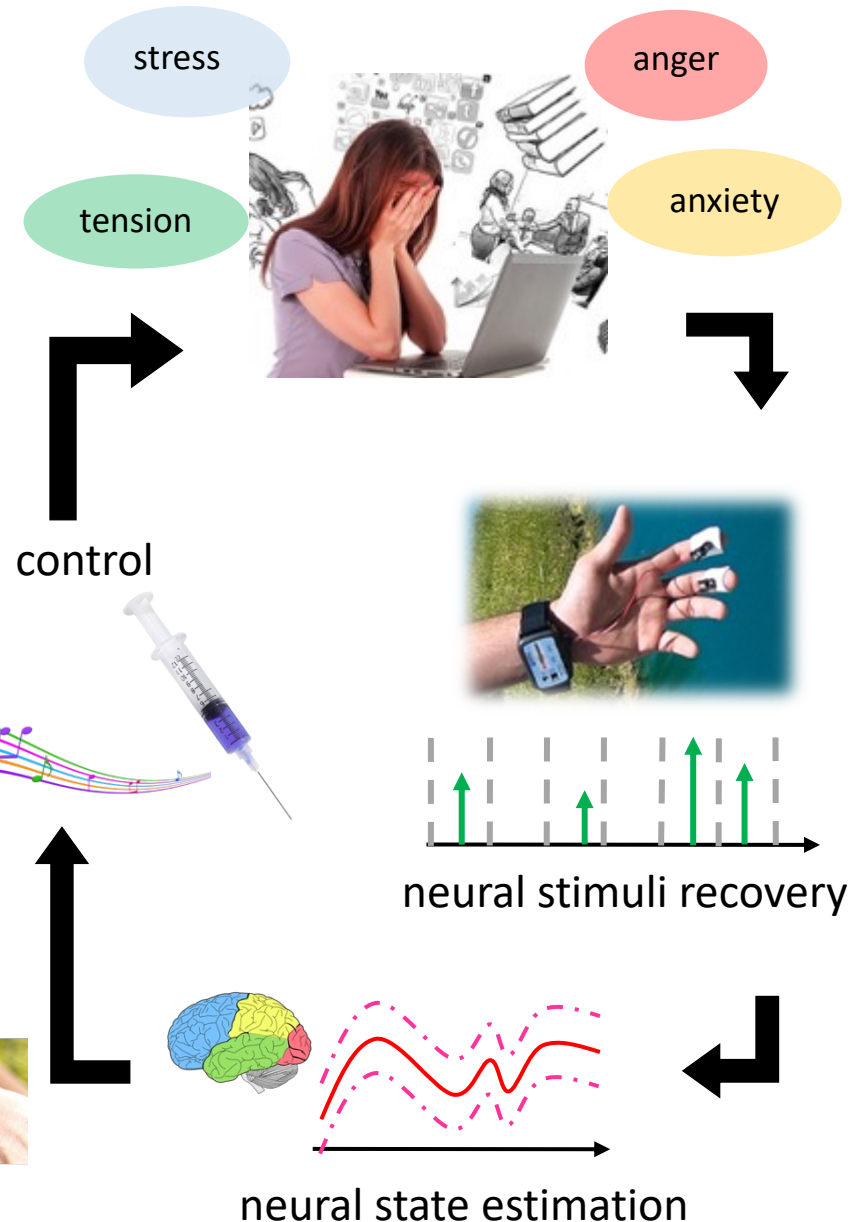


# Conclusions

Wearable devices to infer brain activity from peripheral physiological signals

## Contributions:

- Infer the neural stimuli underlying pulsatile physiological signals (e.g. skin conductance, blood cortisol levels)
- Estimate an unobserved neural state from inferred neural stimuli (e.g. arousal, energy)
- Applying control to maintain the unobserved state within a desired range

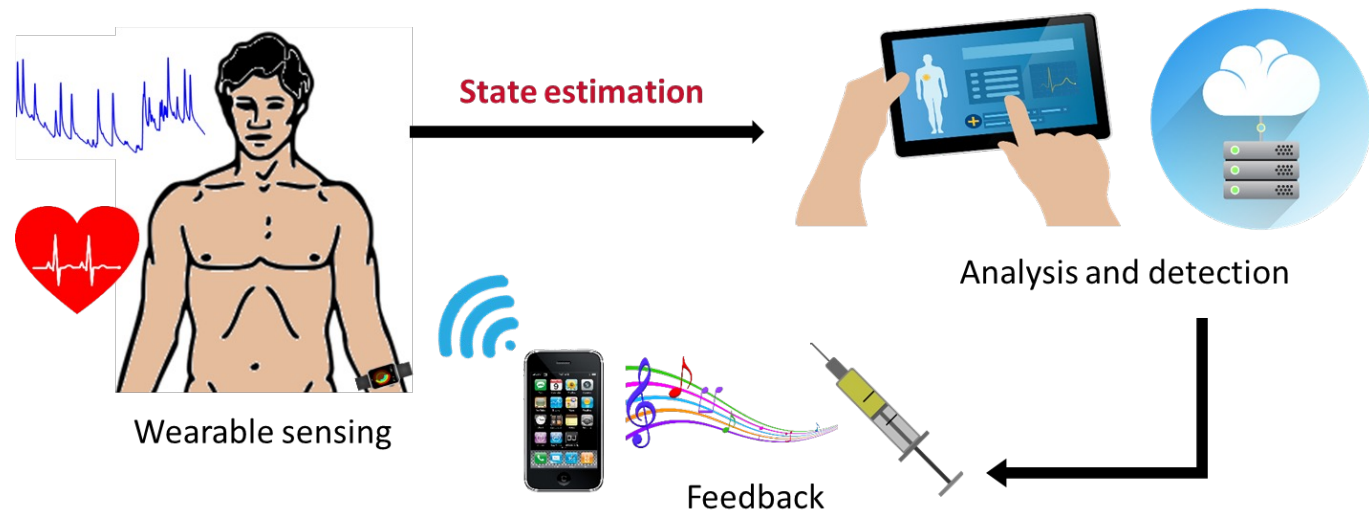


Sample Skin Conductance Data Recorded using Empatica E4 Wearable Device



# Future Directions: Medical Cyber-Physical Systems

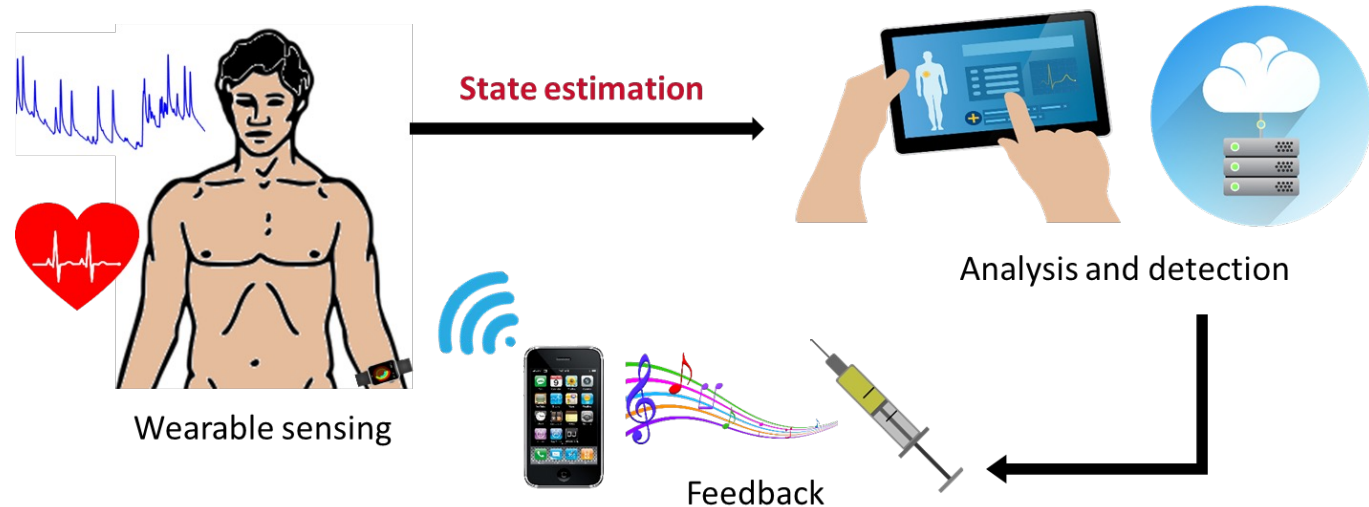
- Estimate and regulate unobserved quantities within the human body
- Future work would involve **multi-dimensional** cases and building **time-varying** models
- Implement **activity**-based and **environment**-based correction for real-world implementation
- Smartwatches to decode brain states
- Smartwatches to regulate brain function in a non-invasive safe manner





# Vision: Wearable Computing for Healthcare Delivery

- **Integration** of sensors & algorithms to provide **clinically relevant** information
  - **Biosensing wearables**
    - Fusion of biochemical and traditional bioelectrical sensors
    - **Biomedical data science** algorithms
- Use **dynamic biosensor data** to **detect, manage, and prevent health conditions** in everyday settings
  - Enable **real-time identification** of those **at-risk** for disease
  - Deliver **precise** and **customized** care
  - Enable at-home remote healthcare delivery



# Thank You



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Joint work with current and former PhD students



Md. Rafiul  
Amin

Deconvolution



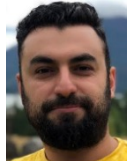
Dilranjan  
Wickramasuriya

Estimation



Saman  
Khazaei

Estimation



Hamid  
Fekri Azgomi

Control



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